

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT ROME 17041 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 21 NOV

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UNCLAS ROME 17041

FODAG

E.O. 11652: 1./A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJ: 18TH FAO CONFERENCE: DISCUSSION WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

1. IN COURSE COMMISSION II DISCUSSION FAO RELATIONSHIP TO
WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, IFAD AND CGFPI, A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS
CORRECTLY NOTED LACK OF CLEAR LINES OF RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN
THESE BODIES AND FAO. DELEGATE OF GUINEA USED OCCASION
COMPLAIN ABOUT WFC, WHICH HE SAID IS UN BODY AND BASED ON
OUTDATED UN CHARTER WHICH FAILS TAKE INTERESTS OF NEW
NATIONS ADEQUATELY INTO CONSIDERATION. HE CRITICIZED APPOIN-
TMENT OF WFC SECRETARIAT
AND LAID FULL RESPONSIBILITY
AT U.S. DOORSTEP. SAID WE WISH TO EMPTY FAO AND DOMINATE
WFC. SAID SECRETARIAT APPOINTMENTS WERE HANDLED BY SYG
IN MANNER GIVING US CONTROL.

2. GUINEA DELEGATE SAID UN RULES HAMSTRING LDC'S AND CHARTER
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REVISION IS NECESSARY TO GIVE THEM EQUITABLE TREATMENT.

3. UN REP (ZUPANOS) OF GENEVA OFFICE INFORMED GUINEA THAT UN SYG FULLY AWARE OF INTERESTS AND ASPIRATIONS DEVELOPING WORLD. SAID FAO CANNOT OPERATE IN VACUUM AND ASSURED GUINEA UN MAKES EVERY EFFORT OBTAIN COLLECTIVE INDICATION POLITICAL WILL ALL ITS MEMBERS.

4. CONGO REPRESENTATIVE THEN SPOKE CITING 100 PERCENT SUPPORT FOR GUINEA STATEMENT. THE US FOLLOWED HIM TO EXPRESS REGRET OVER CRITICISM AND DEROGATORY COMMENTS WHICH GUINEAN, SUPPORTED BY CONGO, HAD MADE REGARDING US ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT REPLY IN KIND BUT RATHER ADDRESS HIMSELF TO SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES BEFORE CONFERENCE. HE CITED FULL SUPPORT WHICH US HAS GIVEN TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF AGENCIES OF THE UN SYSTEM, INCLUDING THOSE ESTABLISHED FOLLOWING THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, AND TO WORK OF FAO.

5. CONGO REPRESENTATIVE THEN SPOKE AGAIN SAYING THAT HE HAD NOT INTENDED ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH CRITICAL REMARKS OF

GUINEA REGARDING ANY COUNTRY AND WANTED CORRECT RECORD. HE SAID FAO WAS TECHNICAL BODY AND CONGO WOULD ARGUE POLITICS IN APPROPRIATE BODY.

6. GUINEAN DELEGATE SPOKE SECOND TIME BUT CLEARLY HAD LOST GROUND AS RESULT UN AND US REPLIES AND CONGO DISCLAIMER. AGAIN HE WAS CRITICAL OF UN RULES, INCLUDING SECURITY COUNCIL VETO. SAID GUINEA WILL NEVER ACCEPT MONOPOLY BY BIG POWERS AND WILL MAINTAIN VIEWS UNTIL CHARTER AND RULES REVISED. IN REPLY UN HE SAID HE HAD NOT ATTACKED SYG, RATHER HE RESPECTED HIM. BEAUDRY UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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